

The Scroll

Issued Biweekly by the PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE
50 East 87th Street, New York City

Vol. I

January 13th, 1939 — Tebet 22, 5699

No. 9

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday Evening, Jan. 13th.....8:15 P.M.

THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN RELIGION AND
DEMOCRACY—IS IT A MATTER OF
ACCIDENT OR ESSENCE?

In his message to Congress, the President of the United States asserted the close interdependence between Religion and Democracy. That both have been thrown together as a result of recent events is immediately apparent. All organized religion finds itself at the present time tied to Democracy. But is the union merely the result of historical accident, or does it represent a fundamental kinship of spirit between a certain political structure and the spiritual traditions of the western world? The analysis of Democracy and Religion and the demonstration of ultimate unities of outlook between them will be Rabbi Steinberg's theme.

Saturday Morning, Jan. 14th.....9:30 A.M.
Sermon — 10:45 A. M.

The Junior Congregation—10:30 A.M.

Friday Evening, Jan. 20th.....8:15 P.M.

THE PORTRAIT OF A JEWISH SCHOLAR
A theme suggested by Norman Bentwich's
biography of Solomon Schechter

The personality of Solomon Schechter, one of the most colorful and constructive in the history of American Jewry, has recently been brought to mind by Mr. Norman Bentwich's biography. Rabbi Steinberg's sermon will treat with the story of the life of this vivid forceful Jewish student, with regard to his achievements and, beyond all else, with the attempt to determine the value and importance of the Jewish scholar on the contemporary Jewish scene.

Saturday Morning, Jan. 21st.....9:30 A.M.
Sermon — 10:45 A. M.

The Junior Congregation—10:30 A.M.

A MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

At the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Park Avenue Synagogue held on December 13th and again at the meeting of the membership of the congregation on January 10th, the question of attendance at services was raised for serious discussion.

It was universally agreed that the quality of our pulpit preaching and the grace of our formal worship are unexcelled in metropolitan New York. Our difficulty seems to be a state of mind on the part of our membership as a result of which it is taken for granted that members of the congregation will as a matter of course not attend worship.

As Chairman of the Board of Trustees I take this means of asking our members to modify their attitudes, develop the practice of assuming that you will be at services, and make absence an exception rather than a rule. You owe it to your own spiritual life not to miss the guidance and the inspiration which worship and the sermons associated with it can afford you.

FREDERICK FINN

THE PARK AVE. SYNAGOGUE

50 EAST 87th STREET

Sacramento 2-8765

OFFICERS

Rabbi.....	Milton Steinberg
Cantor.....	David J. Puttermann
President.....	Jacob Friedman, Jr.
1st Vice-President.....	Charles Weill
2nd Vice-President.....	Morris Edelman
Chairman of Board.....	Frederick Finn
Vice-Chairman of Board.....	Milton Weill
Treasurer.....	Arthur Ochs
Asst. Treasurer.....	Albert Fisch
Sisterhood President.....	Mrs. Milton Heller
Executive Secretary.....	Emanuel Rosenthal
Sexton.....	M. D. Millheiser
Mr. Louis B. Miller, Editor of The Scroll	

THE SERMON ON JANUARY 6th

Last Friday night Rabbi Steinberg took as his text a statement made in 1834 by the German-Jewish poet and essayist, Heinrich Heine. That statement is so remarkable in its foresight that we quote it here in full.

"Christianity—and this is its greatest merit—has occasionally calmed the brutal German lust for battle, but it cannot destroy that savage joy. And when once that restraining talisman, the cross is broken, then the old combatants will rage with the fury celebrated by the Norse poets. The wooden talisman is fast decaying; the day will come when it will break pathetically to pieces. Then the old stone gods will rise from unremembered ruins and rub the dust of a thousand years from their eyes, and Thor will leap to life at last and bring down his gigantic hammer on the Gothic cathedrals. . . . Do not smile; it is no mere fantasy. . . . The thought always precedes the act, as the lightning precedes the thunder. . . . German thunder is truly German; it takes its time. But it will come, and when it crashes it will crash as nothing in history crashed before. The hour will come. . . . A drama will be performed which will make the French Revolution seem like a pretty idyll. . . . Never doubt it; the hour will come."

Analyzing Heine's prognostications, Rabbi Steinberg pointed out that for all its amazing accuracy, it proceeds from an assumption unacceptable to the religious mind, namely that segments of mankind, in this case the German people,

are by nature uncivilized. Rabbi Steinberg argued against such assumptions. The German people, he insisted, must be seen not as an inhuman division of humanity but as a group which has become what it is because of history and circumstance. He warned the congregation against slipping into the Nazi device of mass condemnation. To this extent, he concluded, is Heine's prophecy based on valid premises. Religion has been the discipline of man's brutality. All peoples alike need the influence of church and synagogue if violence and coercion are to be overcome.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday evening service, Jan. 13th—8:15 P.M.

Saturday morning service, Jan. 14th—9:30 A.M.

Junior Congregation—10:30 A.M.

Sunday School sessions, Jan. 15th—9:45 A.M.

Monday afternoon, Jan. 16th—1 P.M.

Sisterhood Bridge and Tea.

Monday evening, Jan. 16th—

Adult Education Classes.

Tuesday evening, Jan. 17th—8:30 P.M.

Young Folks League—Business meeting.

Rabbi Steinberg, Guest Speaker.

Thursday evening, Jan. 19th—8:30 P.M.

Men's Club—Social and business meeting.

Friday evening service, Jan. 20th—8:15 P.M.

Saturday morning service, Jan. 21st—9:30 A.M.

Junior Congregation—10:30 A.M.

Saturday evening, Jan. 21st—

Young Folks League—Dance.
Proceeds to needy refugees.

Sunday School sessions, Jan. 22nd—9:45 A.M.

Sunday morning, Jan. 22nd—10:30 A.M.

Parents Group.

Monday evening, Jan. 23rd—

Collegiate Division.

Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 24th—1 P.M.

Sisterhood Annual Meeting.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

NEXT PARENTS GROUP MEETING JANUARY 22nd

Due to an unforeseen contingency, the meeting of the Parents Group scheduled for Sunday morning, January 15th, is to be postponed to Sunday morning, January 22nd. Members of the Parents Group are asked to call each other's attention to the change of date.

THE SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood extends New Year's greetings and very best wishes for Health, Happiness and Prosperity to you and your family.

Please take note that the Sisterhood meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month from now on.

On Monday, January 16th, at 1:30 P.M. the first social affair of the new year will be given in the form of a Bridge and Tea under the chairmanship of Lillian Lesser and Ceil Gerrish, who are planning a delightful afternoon for members and friends. Tickets may be obtained from Mrs. Lesser at the Synagogue address. Help the Charity Fund by attending with your friends. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be served. The admission is 75 cents.

On Tuesday, January 24th, at 1 P.M. the Annual Meeting of the Sisterhood will take place at the Synagogue. You and your friends are cordially invited to attend the Installation of Officers for the coming year. The Program Committee will offer a delightful program for the entertainment of those present.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the general membership of the Congregation was held on Tuesday evening, January 10th. The meeting took place too late for an account of it in this issue of The Scroll, but the very next issue will carry for the benefit of those members who were not present a full account of the officers elected, the action taken on the election of German refugee rabbis to our pulpit, and all other business transacted.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

MUSIC AT SERVICES

Program for Friday Evening, January 13th

Ma Tovu	Lewandowski
L'cho Dodi	Lewandowski
Borchu-Shma	F. v.d. Stucken
Mi Chomocho	William Sparger
V'shomru	Low
May the Words.....	H. Zoellner
Kiddush	Puttermann
Va-anachnu	William Sparger
Sabbath Queen	Minkowski

ACTVITIES OF MEN'S CLUB

On January 5th the members of the Men's Club heard a very fine address delivered by Dr. Gregor Sebba. His subject was "From an Austrian Jail to the Land of the Free."

A social and business meeting will be held on Thursday evening, January 19th.

All men of the Congregation and their male friends are welcome to the meetings of the Men's Club. The next speaker to appear before the group will be Deputy Police Commissioner John A. Lyons on Thursday evening, February 2nd. He will address the Club on the crime situation in New York.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

THE YOUNG FOLKS LEAGUE

On Sunday evening, January 8th the league held another of its very successful Open Meeting and Socials. Our Guest Speaker, Mr. Bernard Botein gave us a very interesting talk, which everyone enjoyed very much. The meeting was followed by a social evening.

Our next regular business meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, January 17th at 8:30 P.M., at which time we will have with us our good friend, Rabbi Milton Steinberg as Guest Speaker.

As mentioned in the last issue of the Scroll the League is sponsoring a Gala Dance and Entertainment on Saturday evening, January 21st, 1939, in conjunction with the Joint Distribution Committee for the benefit of Jewish Refugees. We wish to encourage the participation of every member of the Synagogue, their families and their friends to help us in this most worthy cause. By doing so, it will enable us to help the needy refugees in their problems and enjoy a better life here.

There will be a fine Orchestra to dance to, entertainment, game tables. Refreshments will be served to everyone. The Subscription will be \$1.00.

Information and tickets can be had from Miss Shirley Yohann, Chairman, 1185 Park Ave., New York City.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

THE SCHOOL

On Sunday morning, January 15th, the assembly program of the junior and senior groups will be devoted to the presentation of the work of the Federation of New York Charities. Members of the Keren Ami Club will discuss the nature and extent of the work of the New York Federation of Charities.

The Keren Ami Club, acting on behalf of the entire student body, recently made a donation to the Guild for the Jewish Blind.

The session on January 29th will be given over to mid-term examinations covering work in all branches of the curriculum studied since the opening of school.

Junior Congregation.

On Saturday morning, January 7th, a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Junior Congregation was held after services. Norman Katz and Sanford Hahn presented plans for extending the scope of the Junior Congregation to include a Friday afternoon service. The matter was discussed pro and con. Details of the Friday afternoon service will be published shortly.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

CONFIRMATION CLASS BEGINS SESSIONS

The attention of the parents of children associated with our Sunday School is called to the fact that the Confirmation Class has begun its sessions in preparation for the services of Confirmation to be held on Shevuos. Any girl who is enrolled in our Sunday School and who will have passed her fourteenth birthday before June 1st of this year is eligible for Confirmation.

Parents who are interested are asked to communicate with Rabbi Steinberg at the Synagogue.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

THE COTERIE CLUB

Two very pleasant gatherings were enjoyed by the members of the Coterie Club within the last few weeks. On December 28th an evening party was held at the home of Jewel Weiss. On the afternoon of January 8th the group met at the home of Ina Cohen and spent several sociable hours.

ADULT STUDY CIRCLES

The classes under the auspices of the Committee on Adult Education which have had a most successful first semester are now looking ahead to their second semester which is to begin on Monday evening, February 13th.

Attendance at classes has been regular and large. Interest in all courses has been high, and the lecture series on "The Problems of the Religious Life" conducted by Rabbi Steinberg has been unusually helpful.

A subsequent issue of The Scroll will carry the announcement of registration periods for the second semester. All persons associated with the Synagogue are urged to avail themselves of the opportunities for information and discussion made available by the Committee on Adult Education.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

The Scroll's congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weill on the celebration of their wedding anniversary on January 4th.

The congregation's best wishes for recovery from her illness to Mrs. Olga Bibor Stern.

To Dr. David Kaliski, the sympathies of the congregation on the passing of John Ephraim Kaliski, his father.

The congratulations of the congregation to the Metzger and Hoexter families on the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hoexter.

To Mrs. Louis B. Metzger, The Scroll extends its best wishes for a rapid and complete recovery.

FRIDAY NIGHT BELONGS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

OUR SYNAGOGUE AND GERMAN EMIGRES

The special committee of our congregation appointed to deal with the problem of integrating German refugees into the life of our Synagogue will very shortly issue such a questionnaire which will make inquiry as to readiness to supply affidavits, the ability to house German emigres temporarily, the willingness to act as social sponsors in our Synagogue life for newcomers. In addition, inquiry will be made concerning employment.

A typical case is that of a couple of fine cultural antecedents; the woman of a family of people of letters and music, the man formerly a prominent attorney. The couple is looking for employment—the woman as governess, housekeeper or lady's companion, the husband equipped with technical skills as valet, gardener or houseman. Is there any family associated with our congregation which could use such a couple — perhaps in its country place? This instance is quoted by way of example, but any one who is interested can address inquiries to Rabbi Steinberg or to Mr. William Heller, chairman of the committee on German refugees, at the Synagogue.

S P E C I A L A N N O U N C E M E N T

DR. ABRAM L. SACHAR, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE
HILLEL FOUNDATION, WILL BE OUR GUEST PREACHER
ON FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 27th.

COMPLETE DETAILS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT
ISSUE OF "THE SCROLL".

RESERVE THAT EVENING NOW

